

Express Mail No. EV 371 772 624 US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Bra

Bravo-Vasquez and Hill

Confirmation No.:

9071

Serial No.:

09/876,944

Art Unit:

1762

Filed:

June 8, 2001

Examiner:

Padgett, Marianne

For:

METHOD FOR THE DEPOSITION OF

Attorney Docket:

60937-0120 (formerly

MATERIALS FROM

8317-120-999

**MESOMORPHOUS FILMS** 

## COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants are in receipt of the Notice of Allowance, mailed May 3, 2004 for the above identified patent application, and respectfully request entry of the following remarks.

In her statement of reasons for allowance, the Examiner articulated reasons why Applicants' claims are not obvious over the respective combinations of Hill (U.S. Patent No. 5,534,312) in view of Yundt (U.S. Patent No. 4,199,649), and Hill in view of Lin (U.S. Patent No. 5,348,775). While not disagreeing with the Examiner's reasoning, Applicants wish to add the following comments.

First, the Examiner references the films of Yundt as having a "microstructure [that] reads on the claimed mesomorphous film". Applicants are of the view that there are sufficient differences between their claimed methods and the combined disclosures of Yundt and Hill that it is not necessary to evaluate whether or not the films of Yundt are mesomorphous.

Second, the Examiner has referred to "photosensitive processing discussed in Ex. 2 or 8 [of Yundt]" as not creating any byproducts of the type claimed by Applicants. Although Applicants see no reference to "photosensitive processing" in the cited examples of Yundt, Applicants see no teachings elsewhere in Yundt in which photochemical reactions create any of Applicants' claimed byproducts.

Finally, the Examiner states that Applicants characterize Lin as disclosing a mesomorphic solution. However, as described in the Amendment and Response mailed March 24, 2004, (Paper No. 12), Applicants do not view Lin as disclosing a mesomorphous solution, but instead a micellar solution. In other respects, Applicants agree with the Examiner's summary of reasons why Applicants' claims are distinguishable from the combination of Hill and Lin.

## **CONCLUSION**

No fee is believed owing with this communication. Nevertheless, should the Commissioner determine otherwise, he is authorized to charge any underpayment, or credit any overpayment to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0310 (reference 60937-0120) for the appropriate amount. A copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

June 14, 2004

By:

Richard G. A. Bone

Limited Recognition Under 37 C.F.R. § 10.9(b)

and G. A-Ben

(Copy of Certificate attached hereto)

for Victor N. Balancia, Reg. No. 31,231

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

3300 Hillview Avenue

Palo Alto, California 94304-1203

(650) 493-4935